

MASTER'S DEGREES

Applicants to all master's degree programs gain admission in either classified or conditionally classified graduate standing under standard universitywide policies. Many programs impose additional requirements beyond the criteria stated here. To be eligible to receive the master's degree at CSU, Fresno, a student must be advanced to candidacy and complete all other requirements specified by the School of Graduate Studies and the specific program, thereby demonstrating a command of the field of specialization and a competence in independent investigation, analysis, and synthesis beyond the scope of individual courses. Additional information about specific program requirements may be found in the *Graduate Bulletin*.

Graduate Standing-Conditionally Classified

A student who indicates on the application for admission that he or she wishes to pursue a master's degree objective is considered for classified graduate standing. An applicant who does not meet all the specified criteria for admission to a master's degree program with full classified standing may be recommended for classified standing by the graduate committee of the program in question. Such a recommendation is accompanied by a statement of the additional requirements which must be met before full classified standing is granted. This information is communicated to the student by the Office of the School of Graduate Studies. It is the student's responsibility to request a change in classification status as soon as the specified conditions have been met. Forms for this purpose may be obtained in the Office of the School of Graduate Studies.

Graduate Standing-Classified

A graduate student who satisfactorily meets the professional, personal, scholastic or other standards for admission to a master's degree curriculum as determined by the graduate committee for the program, may be recommended for admission to classified graduate standing. Only those applicants who show promise of success and fitness will be admitted to master's degree curricula, and only those who continue to demonstrate a satisfactory level of scholastic competence and fitness shall be eligible to proceed in such curricula. (See also, *Grade Requirements*, below.)

Minimum criteria for classified graduate standing include satisfactory undergraduate scholarship, including demonstrated potential for graduate work in the major field, satisfactory scores on the Graduate Record Examination Aptitude Test (or the Graduate Management Admission Test for business students), and other criteria which the graduate committee for the program may prescribe. Information concerning prerequisites to specific master's degree programs may be found in the *Graduate Bulletin*.

Not more than 10 units (including transfer and post-baccalaureate credit) completed before achieving full classified standing at CSU, Fresno, may be applied to the master's degree program. Work taken during the semester of classification is considered to be completed in classified standing. In 60-unit programs the above limitation applies only to the last 30 units.

ADVANCEMENT TO CANDIDACY

Classified graduate standing gives a student permission to work toward qualifying for candidacy. Advancement to candidacy gives a student permission to proceed toward qualifying for the degree. Requirements for advancement to candidacy include the following:

1. Classified graduate standing.
2. Completion of any additional prerequisites which the adviser specifies in writing.
3. Satisfactory completion of the Graduate Record Examination Advanced Test or departmental qualifying examination.
4. A minimum grade point average of 3.0 (both overall and at CSU, Fresno) on all upper division and graduate course work from the date of embarking on the first course of the proposed master's degree program. (See also, *Grade Requirements*, below)
5. Satisfactory completion of the foreign language requirement for those programs having such a requirement. (See departmental Foreign Language Requirement.)
6. Departmental recommendation for advancement to candidacy on a petition form available in the Office of the School of Graduate Studies. In making this